


## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Kenneth G. Ammon, P.E., Deputy Executive Director  
Everglades Restoration and Capital Projects 

**DATE:** November 29, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Approve five-year cost share agreement with United States Geological Survey (USGS) for geomorphic monitoring of the Kissimmee River Restoration project, Contract Number 4600002280

**Background:** In 1992, the Kissimmee River Restoration Project (KRRP) was initiated to restore flow into the old channel system. Stability and sedimentation monitoring are presented in the Integrated Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement (IFR/EIS) as integral programs in the KRRP monitoring plan. Since FY07, USGS has entered into yearly Joint Funding Agreements (JFA) with the District to meet the requirements of the IFR/EIS for baseline and post-restoration sediment transport and floodplain sedimentation monitoring of the restored Kissimmee River. This agreement, funded by a JFA, will provide the District with data to implement comprehensive adaptive river management approaches.

**How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan:** Geomorphic monitoring is included in the KRR & Headwaters Revitalization element of the Everglades Restoration & Capital Projects program. Specific goals are completion of Phase I Environmental Response Monitoring by 2016, completion and final documentation of Phase II/III baseline restoration evaluation studies by 2014, and completion of post-restoration evaluation studies by 2020.

**Funding Source:** This is a five-year cost share agreement in the total amount of \$1,800,900. The District's total contribution is not to exceed \$1,575,900, of which \$278,100 in ad valorem funds are budgeted. The USGS will partner with the District and contribute \$45,000 annually, for a total amount of \$225,000, toward the project.

**This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:** The study area includes a total of five unrestored (for baseline and control purposes) and restored runs of the Kissimmee River within the Lower Kissimmee Basin. The contract will be managed by staff in the Kissimmee Division of the Restoration Sciences Department.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?** One ongoing concern is whether the partnering agency will continue to contribute a cost share given the challenging economic times.

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**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?** Approval of this item will ensure operational continuity of the prior four years of work performed by the USGS. This work is necessary to comply with the requirements of the IFR/EIS for fluvial geomorphic monitoring of the restored Kissimmee River for which internal expertise does not exist at the District. Ongoing yearly monitoring is necessary to ensure that gradually developing problems with sediment and erosion control, if they occur, do not go undetected and lead to greater or catastrophic problems. The USGS is uniquely qualified in terms of both nationally-recognized expertise and resources to perform this work. Non-approval of this item would result in the loss of those resources.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at extension 6502.

KGA/jv  
Attachment – Resolution, Map